

Abstract (in English)

This bachelor thesis is dedicated to Indonesian musical genre dangdut, one of the most popular musical genres in the archipelago for more than four decades. Dangdut consists of various elements of Western popular, Indian, and local musical traditions, making it an interesting subject of study for musicological, as well as socio-cultural research. Ambivalent nature of dangdut music has the power to unite heterogenous Indonesian society and divide it and at the same time because of its controversial aspects, making it a suitable field for research of social phenomena such as class division of the society or relationship between religious institutions and popular culture. This thesis aims to put dangdut into context of Indonesian cultural and social traditions, describe its characteristics, summarize the outputs of the scientific approach to dangdut and explain the factors behind genre's popularity.

Key words

Indonesia, Indonesian music, popular music, syncretism, fusion, acculturation, controversy